CLAIM LISTING:

1-49. (***Canceled***)

50. (***Currently Amended***) A prosthesis for the replacement of at least a portion of the bone of a facet located on a mammalian vertebra, comprising:

a surface that articulates with another facet surface;

a fixation portion having a longitudinally-extending portion that is longer than a pedicle of the vertebra, said longitudinally-extending portion configured for implantation into an interior bone space of said vertebra, said surface being connected to said fixation portion.

51. (***Currently Amended***) The device of claim **50** wherein said longitudinally-extending ~~said fixation~~ portion is a post that extends through ~~is adapted to be fitted into the~~ an interior bone space of the [[a]] pedicle and into a vertebral body space of said vertebra.

52. (***Previously Presented***) The device of claim **51** wherein said post is porous coated to allow for bone ingrowth.

53. (***Previously Presented***) The device of claim **52** wherein said porous coating includes osteoconductive or osteoinductive substances.

54. (***Previously Presented***) The device of claim **50** wherein said surface that articulates is comprised of one of a group consisting of a polymeric bearing material, a polymeric bearing material attached to a metal substrate, a ceramic bearing material, and a metal bearing material.

55. (***NEW***) The device of claim **51** wherein said post is textured.

56. (***NEW***) The device of claim **55** wherein said post is textured to permit bone ingrowth.

57. (***NEW***) The device of claim **50** wherein said longitudinally-extending portion is a screw that extends through an interior bone space of the pedicle and into a vertebral body space of said vertebra.

58. (*NEW*) The device of claim **57** wherein said screw is textured to allow for bone ingrowth.

59. (*NEW*) The device of claim **50**, wherein said longitudinally-extending portion has a transverse width less than a width of said pedicle.

60. (*NEW*) The device of claim **50**, wherein said prosthesis replaces a substantial portion of said bone of said facet.

61. (*NEW*) The device of claim **50**, wherein said prosthesis replaces all of said bone of said facet.

62. (*NEW*) The device of claim **50**, wherein a longitudinal axis of said longitudinally-extending portion extends through said surface that articulates.

63. (*NEW*) The device of claim **50**, wherein said longitudinally-extending portion is longer than said pedicle of said vertebra at a cervical level of the spine.

64. (*NEW*) The device of claim **50**, wherein said longitudinally-extending portion is longer than said pedicle of said vertebra at a thoracic level of the spine.

65. (*NEW*) The device of claim **50**, wherein said longitudinally-extending portion is longer than said pedicle of said vertebra at a lumbar level of the spine.

66. (*NEW*) The device of claim **50**, wherein said longitudinally-extending portion is longer than said pedicle of said vertebra at a sacral level of the spine.

67. (*NEW*) The device of claim **50**, wherein said surface is removably connected to the fixation portion.

68. (*NEW*) A prosthesis for the replacement of at least a portion of a bone of a facet located on a mammalian vertebra, the prosthesis comprising:

a facet surface that articulates with another surface of an opposing vertebra;

an affixing element having a length greater than a length of a pedicle wherein a portion of the length of the affixing element engages an interior bone space of the mammalian vertebra, the facet surface being connected to the affixing element.

69. (*NEW*) The prosthesis of claim **68** wherein the facet surface is a natural facet surface that articulates with the surface of the opposing vertebrae.

70. (*NEW*) The prosthesis of claim **68** wherein the facet surface is an artificial facet surface that articulates with the surface of the opposing vertebrae.

71. (*NEW*) The prosthesis of claim **68** wherein the surface of the opposing vertebrae is a facet surface of the opposing vertebrae.

72. (*NEW*) The device of claim **68** wherein the affixing element is a post that is adapted to traverse a pedicle and engage the vertebral body.

73. (*NEW*) The device of claim **68** wherein the affixing element is textured along at least a portion of its length.

74. (*NEW*) The device of claim **68** wherein the affixing element is a screw that is adapted to traverse a pedicle and engage at least a portion of the vertebral body.

75. (*NEW*) The device of claim **72** wherein the post is porous coated to allow for bone ingrowth.

76. (*NEW*) The device of claim **75** wherein the porous coating includes osteoconductive or osteoinductive substances.

77. (*NEW*) The device of claim **68** wherein the facet surface that articulates is comprised of one of a group consisting of a polymeric bearing material, a polymeric bearing material attached to a metal substrate, a ceramic bearing material, and a metal bearing material.

78. (*NEW*) A prosthesis for the replacement of at least a portion of a bone of a first facet located on a first mammalian vertebra and a second facet located on a second mammalian vertebra, the prosthesis comprising:

a first facet surface that articulates with an opposing facet surface of the second vertebra;

a second facet surface that articulates with an opposing facet surface of the first vertebra;

a first affixing element having a length greater than a length of a pedicle wherein a portion of the length of the affixing element engages an interior bone space of the first vertebra, the first facet surface being connected to the first affixing element; and

a second affixing element having a length greater than a length of the pedicle wherein a portion of the length of the affixing element engages an interior bone space of the second vertebra, the second facet surface being connected to the second affixing element.

79. (*NEW*) The device of claim **78** wherein the first facet surface that articulates is comprised of one of a group consisting of a polymeric material, a polymeric bearing material attached to a metal substrate, a ceramic bearing material, and a metal bearing material.

80. (*NEW*) The device of claim **78** wherein the first affixing element is a first post that is adapted to traverse a pedicle and engage the first vertebral body.

81. (*NEW*) The device of claim **80** wherein the first post is porous coated to allow for bone ingrowth.

82. (*NEW*) The device of claim **80** wherein the porous coating includes osteoconductive or osteoinductive substances.

83. (*NEW*) The device of claim **78** wherein the second facet surface that articulates is comprised of one of a group consisting of a polymeric material, a polymeric bearing material attached to a metal substrate, a ceramic bearing material, and a metal bearing material.

84. (*NEW*) The device of claim **78** wherein the first facet surface is a first artificial facet surface, the second facet surface is a second artificial facet surface, and the first and second artificial facet surfaces articulate with each other.

85. (*NEW*) The device of claim **78** wherein the second affixing element is a second post that is adapted to traverse a pedicle and engage the second vertebral body.

86. (*NEW*) The device of claim **85** wherein the second post is porous coated to allow for bone ingrowth.

87. (*NEW*) The device of claim **86** wherein the porous coating includes osteoconductive or osteoinductive substances.

88. (*NEW*) The device of claim **51** wherein said post comprises a pedicle screw.

89. (*NEW*) The device of claim **88** wherein said pedicle screw includes osteoconductive or osteoinductive substances.

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